

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Installations in the City of Samokov	DATE DISTR.	5 August 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. A sketch map of Samokov is enclosed herewith as an Appendix, pages 11, 12, and 13. Installations are identified throughout the report by their corresponding numbers in the Appendix, and a complete legend to Appendix is included on page 10.

25X1

Tank Unit

2. An unidentified tank unit, which informant believes to be a regiment, is located at Samokov 100 meters east of the road to Borovets, east of the old sports field. The barracks are indicated on the sketch in the Appendix as No. 9. The unit is subordinate to an unidentified unit commanded by a young major general (about 50 years old) who lives in the area.
3. Informant noted the following equipment and weapons:
 - a. Stalinets and other types of caterpillar tractors for drawing the field guns;
 - b. Tanks of unspecified types which, from the description given by informant, are self-propelled;
 - c. Auto vehicles;
 - d. Motorcycles;
 - e. Antitank guns of unknown caliber with very long barrels, mounted on 2-wheel gun carriages with rubber tires; and
 - f. Field guns mounted on 4-wheel gun carriages without rubber tires.
4. Firing practice is carried out with the self-propelled and field artillery guns once or twice a month. Frequently instruction is given during the night hours.

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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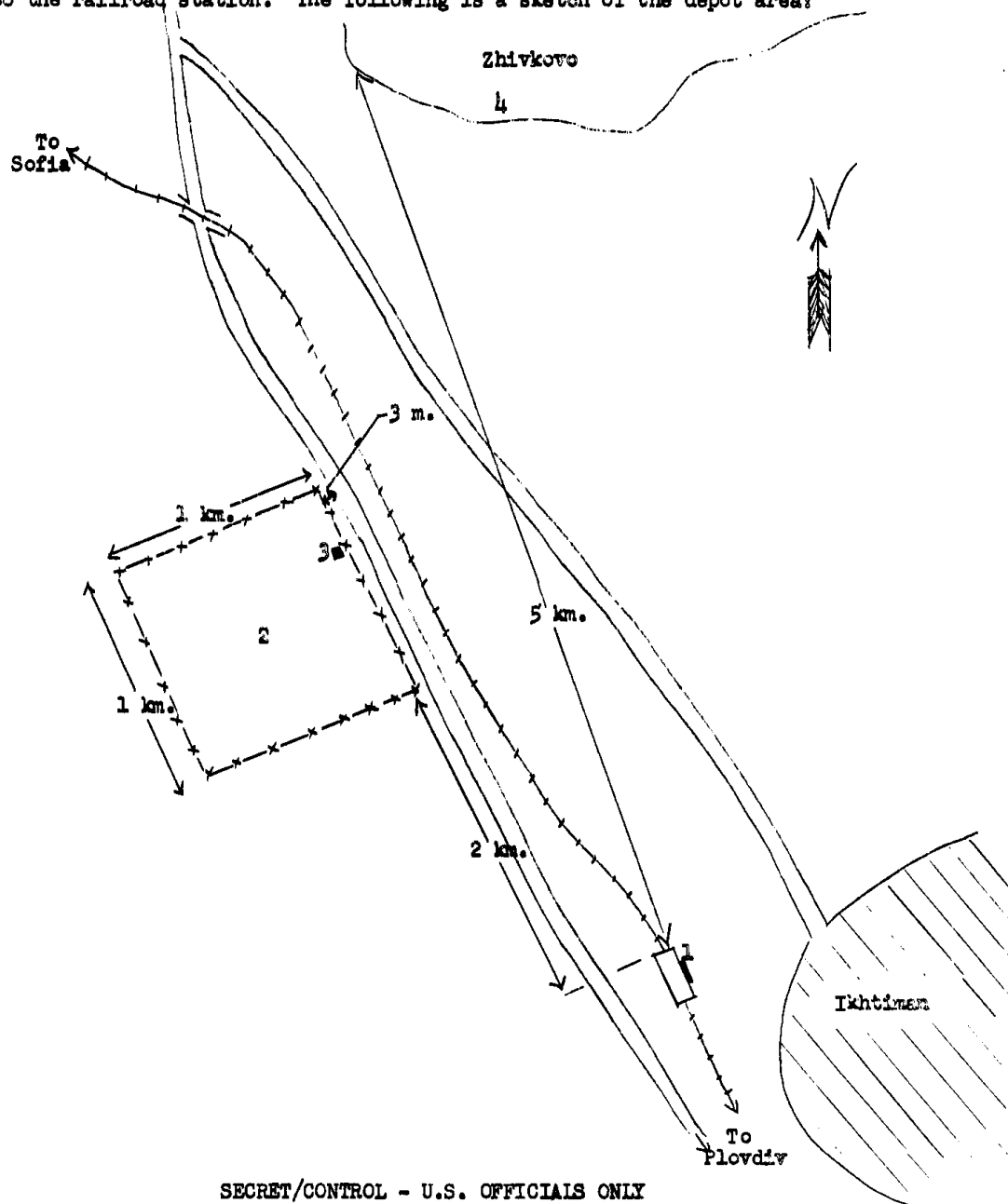
-2-

25X1

5. The barracks of this unit (No. 9 of Appendix) are located southeast of the old bridge (No. 16 of Appendix) and 100 meters east of the road to Borovets. They occupy an area approximately 500 by 200 meters in size and are enclosed by a barbed wire fence. Guards armed with submachine guns are stationed at both entrances to the area. The barracks consists of two 2-story buildings painted plain light gray.

Depots

6. A gasoline and naphtha depot belonging to the military units of Ikhtiman (N 42-26, E 23-48), as well as the units of Samokov (which has no rail service), is located about two kilometers northwest of the Ikhtiman railroad station, about 40 meters west of the Ikhtiman-Sofia rail line, and adjacent to the west side of the road to the railroad station. The following is a sketch of the depot area:



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-3-

25X1

1. Ikhtiman railroad station.
2. Fuel depot.
3. Guard building.
4. Area not to be flown over.
7. The surrounding area consists of meadows and has no trees. The area of the depot is quadrangular in shape, about one kilometer per side, enclosed by a barbed wire fence.
8. The tanks are all underground and are not visible from above. The guard house, where the guard personnel for the depot are quartered, is the only visible installation. Sometimes empty barrels are left in the open.
9. The guard force consists of approximately 20 soldiers.
10. The fuel stored in these tanks is brought in by tank car.

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Danger to Air Traffic

11. Informant heard from local inhabitants that air traffic is particularly dangerous in the area five kilometers north of the Ikhtiman railroad station in the direction of Zhivkovo (N 42-27, E 23-45) because of the existence of air pockets.
12. This rumor, which does not seem to be technically reliable, may perhaps have been spread for various reasons. It is possible that this is an attempt to keep the zone from being observed for reasons of military secrecy.

Military Hospital - Sofia

13. Military personnel stationed at Samokov, Ikhtiman, Dupnitsa, and the surrounding areas are sent to the military hospital at Sofia for medical care.

Artillery Officers School - Samokov

14. A training school for low ranking artillery officers (No. 12 of Appendix) is located approximately 100 meters west of the roads from Samokov branching to Govedartsa (N 42-16, E 23-31) and Dupnitsa (N 42-16, E 23-07) respectively. It is scarcely five or six meters from the two roads.
15. The school consists of a villa surrounded by tall trees. The masonry constructions and the surrounding park occupy an area approximately 1,000 by 500 meters in size, which is enclosed by a fence.
16. Courses last two or three months, with a 30-day break between courses. Each class consists of approximately 500 low ranking officers (lieutenants, senior lieutenants, and captains). The superintendent of the school is the major general mentioned in paragraph 2 above, who is also the commander of the tank regiment; he lives on the post.
17. Informant noted that, during the period of the course, the officers go out every day on board motor vehicles, with the following types of technical equipment:
 - a. Optical apparatus;
 - b. Goniometers;
 - c. Telemeters; and
 - d. Stadia rods.

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-4-

25X1

Training Ground

18. A training ground is located approximately 2.5 kilometers southwest of the artillery officers school at Samokov (No. 14 of Appendix), between the roads to Dupnitsa and Govedarts1. The cemetery is located west of the training ground.
19. The area is located in a woods and is encircled by hills which also function as shell-stoppers for the firing practice. In this area, which has no particular equipment, training with the caterpillar tread and armored equipment is carried out. The area is not guarded or fenced in.

Summer Camp Area

20. During the summer, troops of the local garrison, which are normally lodged in the Samokov barracks (No. 9 of Appendix), are transferred to various hutments located approximately 4.5 kilometers outside of the city. The barracks in the city are then occupied by troops from other areas who arrive here to carry out firing practice and maneuvers in the area.
21. The summer camp is located approximately 4.5 kilometers south-southeast of Samokov, bordering the west side of the road to Borovets. It consists of an unknown number of wooden barracks (No. 13 of Appendix).
22. Informant states that Border Guards are included among the troops which train at Samokov. Other soldiers have epaulettes entirely of red, and others have epaulettes entirely of blue.

1 May Parade

23. On the occasion of the 1 May celebration at Samokov, only two military units with a total of approximately 200 men participated in the parade (on foot), together with the civilian organizations. Informant stated that the other soldiers remained at the barracks.
24. The troops were reviewed by the above-mentioned major general who commands the garrison.

Police Command

25. The police command in Samokov occupies barracks located on Boris Sotirov Street. It is commanded by an unidentified senior lieutenant.

Road Bridge

26. The road bridge over the Iskŭr River at Samokov (No. 17 of Appendix) is of metal and concrete construction, with three spans, which was constructed in 1942 to replace the old bridge which had been demolished.
27. This bridge has the following characteristics:
 - a. Length: About 100 meters.
 - b. Width: About 7 meters.
 - c. Side walls: Rectilinear, of cement construction.
 - d. Spans: Three.
 - e. Capacity: Can accommodate tanks.

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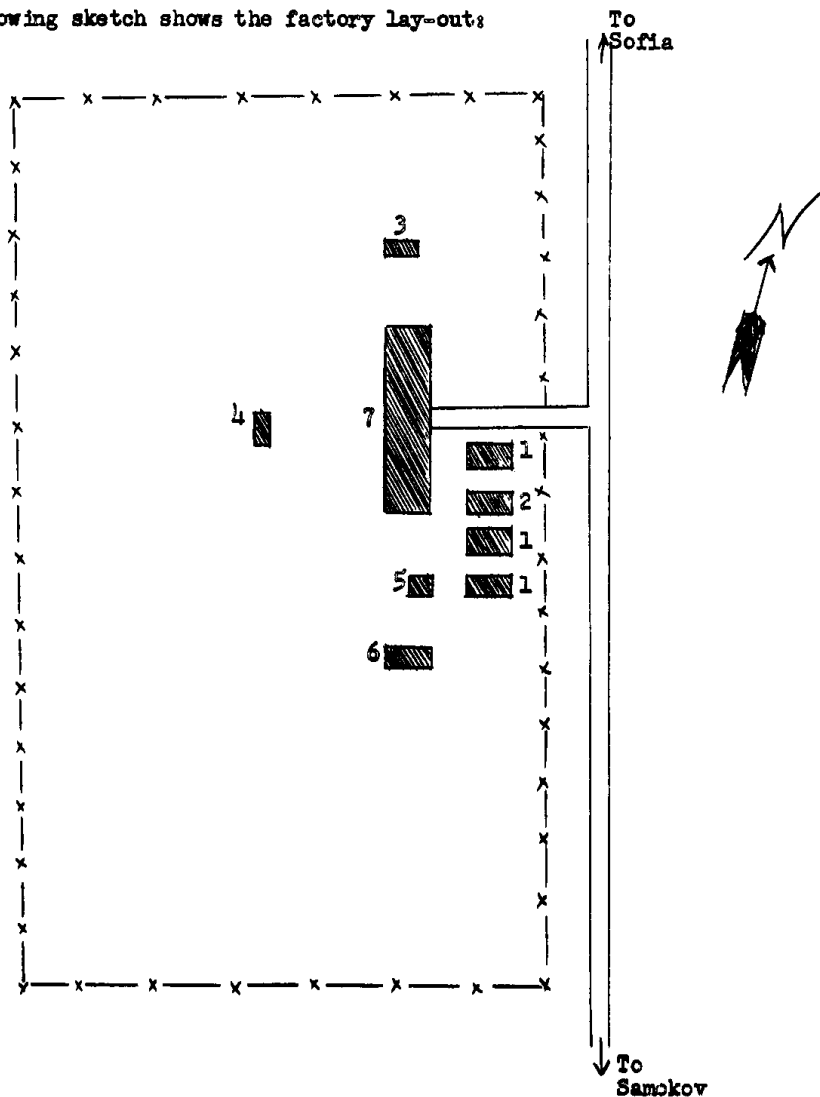
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-5-

25X1

"Boris Khadzhisotirov" Textile Factory

28. The "Boris Khadzhisotirov" Textile Factory (No. 1 of Appendix) is located about three kilometers northwest of the old bridge at Samokov (No. 16 of Appendix) and about 150-200 meters west of the road to Sofia. It is enclosed by a barbed wire fence and measures about one kilometer parallel to the road to Sofia and approximately 600 meters perpendicular to the road.
29. The factory employs approximately 750 workers in three 8-hour shifts per day (about 250 per shift). It produces cotton cloth, primarily for Bulgarian domestic use; the remainder is exported to China and Korea.
30. The following sketch shows the factory lay-out:



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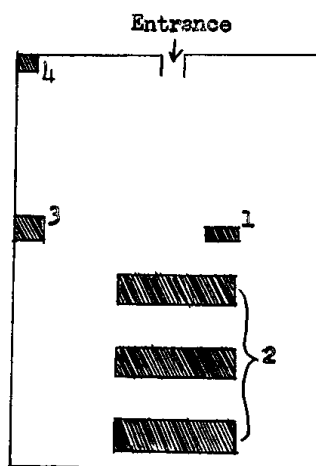
-6-

25X1

1. Workers quarters.
2. Administration offices. 1-story building about 20 x 20 meters.
3. Dyeing. 1-story building about 15 x 7 meters.
4. Garage. 1-story building about 15 x 7 meters. Capacity 3-4 vehicles.
5. Raw materials warehouse. 1-story building about 7 x 7 meters.
6. Raw materials warehouse. 1-story building about 20 x 12 meters.
7. Machinery shed. Masonry building. Also houses the directorate. About 70-80 x 25 meters, tile roof. Ground floor, machinery; first floor, directorate and technical personnel.

"Samokovska Komuna" Woolen Textile Factory

31. The "Samokovska Komuna" (Samokov Communal) Woolen Textile Factory (No. 2 of Appendix) is located approximately two or three kilometers south of the old bridge at Samokov (No. 16 of Appendix) and about 300 meters from the Beli Iskur and Bistritsa Rivers. The area, which is enclosed by a wall, is about 700 by 400 meters in size. The surrounding area is wooded. The factory is connected with the city by means of a road which passes over the old bridge.
32. Approximately 900 workers are employed in three 8-hour shifts per day (300 per shift). Production consists of virgin wool cloth.
33. The following sketch shows the lay-out of the factory area:



1. Administration offices--directorate. 1-story masonry building, 10 x 7 meters.
 2. Machinery shed. Three 1-story buildings, each about 200 x 40 meters.
 3. Finished products warehouse. 1-story masonry building, about 50 x 30 meters.
 4. Guard building. Masonry construction, about 5 x 4 meters. Quarters of the Industrial Militia personnel which guard the factory.
34. Informant knows that other buildings, in which other machinery is to be installed, are under construction, but was unable to supply any details.
 35. Guard duty is carried out by personnel of the Industrial Militia quartered in the building shown as No. 4 on the sketch above.

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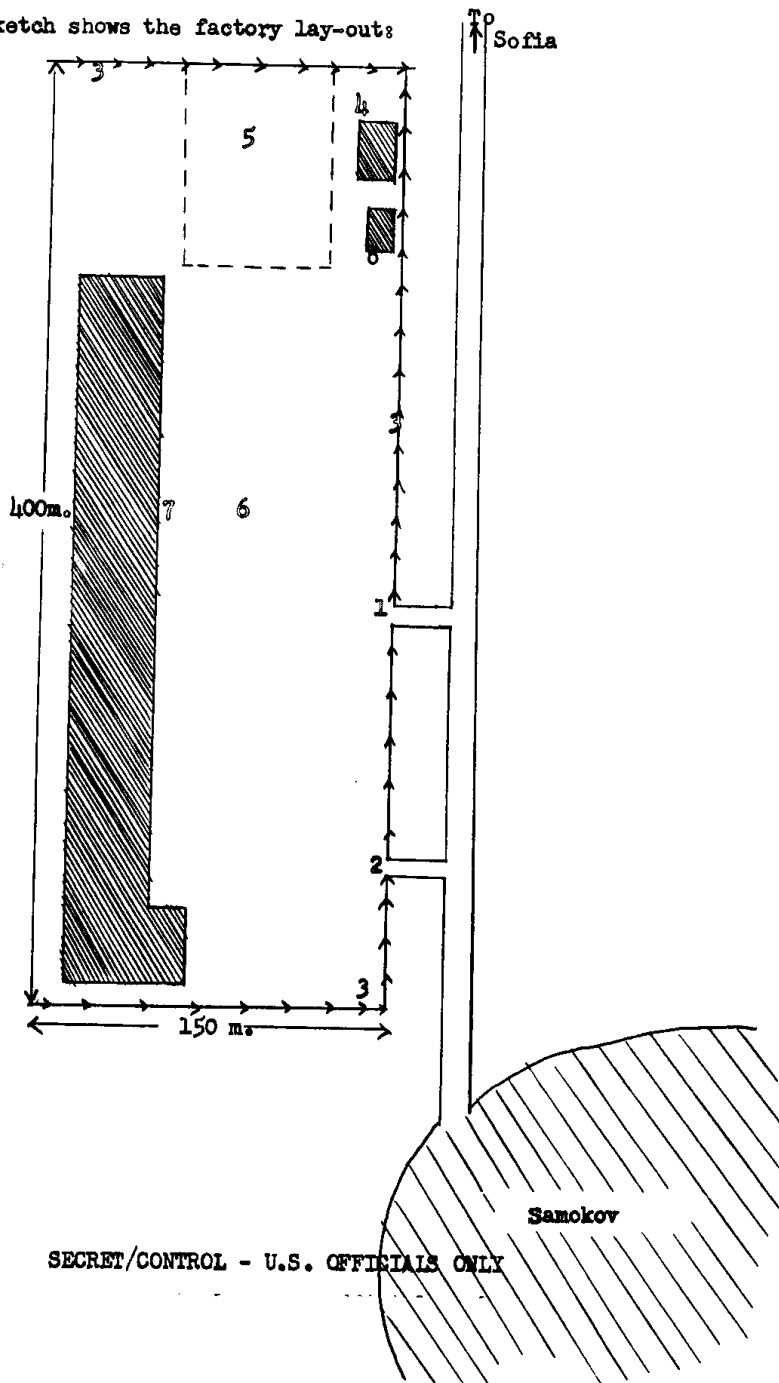
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-7-

25X1

"Rilski Len" Linen and Hemp Factory

36. The "Rilski Len" Linen and Hemp Factory (No. 5 of Appendix) is located 100 meters west of the road to Sofia and approximately 1.5 kilometers north of the old bridge at Samokov (No. 16 of Appendix). The factory area is about 400 meters long parallel to the road to Sofia and about 150 meters perpendicular to the road. It is delimited by a picket fence.
37. Approximately 600 workers are employed in three 8-hour shifts per day (about 200 per shift). Production consists of linen and hemp cloth.
38. The following sketch shows the factory lay-out:



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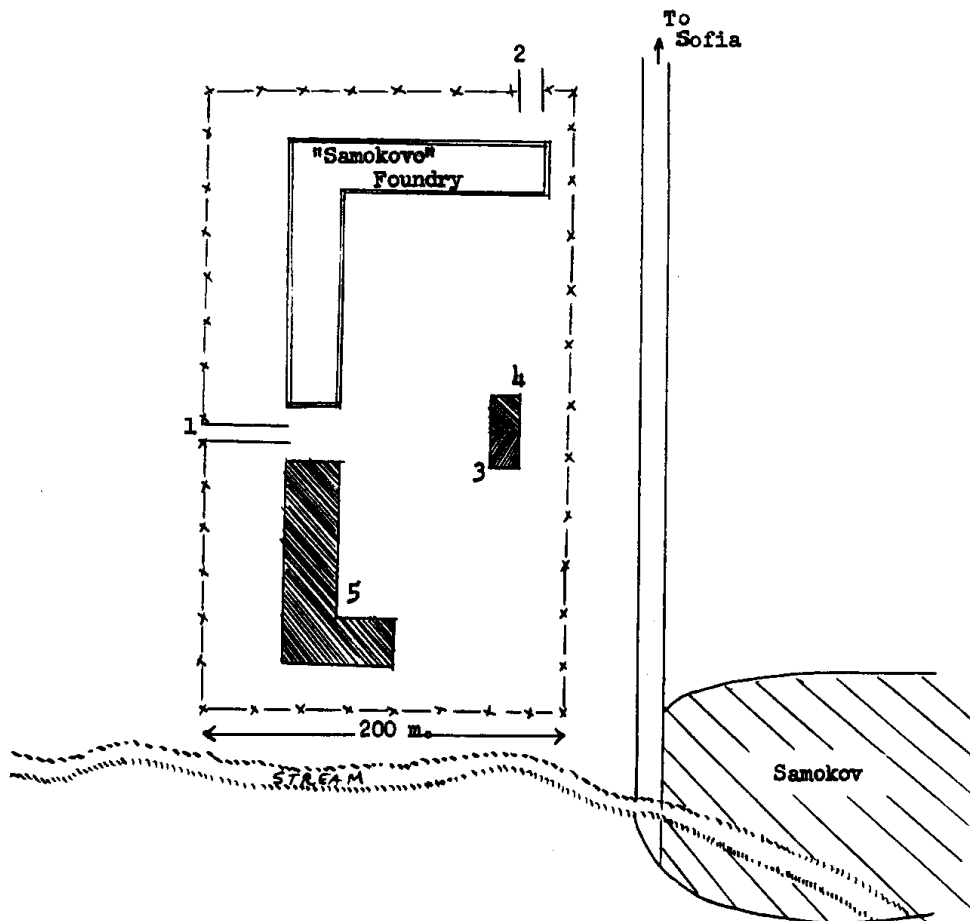
-8-

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1. Secondary entrance.
2. Main entrance.
3. Picket fence.
4. Finished products warehouse. 1-story masonry building about 25 x 15 meters.
5. Open air depot for raw hemp and flax.
6. Courtyard.
7. "L"-shaped 2-story masonry building. Long side about 350 meters, short side about 50 meters.

"Shtastie" Rubber Articles Factory

39. The "Shtastie" (Fortune) Rubber Articles Factory (No. 4 of Appendix) is located in Samokov 10 or 20 meters west of the road to Sofia. It employs approximately 50 workers in a single 8-hour shift and produces rubber soles and shoes.
40. The factory area, which is enclosed by a barbed wire fence, measures about 350 by 200 meters. The "Samokovo" Foundry, described in paragraphs 41 and 42 below, is also located in this area. The layout of these two enterprises is as follows:



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-9-

1. Entrance to "Shtastie" Factory.
2. Entrance to foundry.
3. Administration offices and directorate. 1-story masonry building, about 15 x 7 meters.
4. Raw materials warehouse. 1-story masonry building, about 15 x 7 meters.
5. Machinery shed and finished products warehouse. "L"-shaped 1-story building, about 120 x 50 meters. Inside are located the steam boilers and approximately 30-40 small presses.

"Samokovo" Foundry

41. The "Samokovo" Foundry (see sketch above for location) employs 10 or 15 workers. It has very little activity, and informant could give no details as to its production.
42. The installation consists of a single shed, an "L"-shaped 1-story building about 150 meters per side.

Auto Transport Administration

43. The UAT (Upravlenie na Avtomobilniya Transport; Auto Transport Administration) of Samokov serves the following lines:
 - a. Samokov-Sofia;
 - b. Samokov-Dupnitsa (now Stanke Dimitrov);
 - c. Samokov-Kostenets; and
 - d. Samokov-Ikhtiman.
44. It has daily service in both directions.
45. The fuel depot of the UAT of Samokov (No. 7 of Appendix) is located approximately one kilometer north of the new bridge (No. 17 of Appendix), west of the Iskür River and east of the road to Sofia. It consists of a 30-ton tank and a 15-ton tank, both of which are used exclusively by the UAT. Military units are supplied by the depot at Ikhtiman, described in paragraphs 6-10 above.

Civilian Hospital

46. The civilian hospital of Samokov (No. 15 of Appendix) is located on the road to Borovets, approximately one kilometer north of the barracks of the tank unit. It has approximately 100 beds and has the following departments:
 - a. Gynecological;
 - b. Surgical; and
 - c. General medicine.

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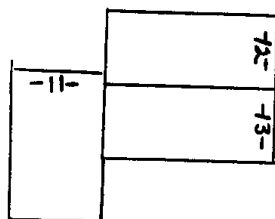
-10-

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LEGEND TO APPENDIX

1. "Boris Khadzhisotirov" Cotton Textile Factory.
2. "Samokovska Komuna" Woolen Textile Factory.
3. "Samokovo" Foundry.
4. "Shtastie" Rubber Articles Factory.
5. "Rilski Len" Linen and Hemp Factory.
6. Carpentry Shop and Sawmill.
7. Fuel Depot of the UAT (Automobile Transport Administration).
8. UAT Garage.
9. Barracks of the Tank Unit.
10. Old Sports Field.
11. New Stadium.
12. Artillery Officers Training School.
13. Summer Training Camp Area.
14. Training Ground--Military.
15. Civilian Hospital.
16. Old Bridge.
17. Bridge over the Iskŭr River (constructed in 1942).

ASSEMBLE SKETCH AS FOLLOWS:



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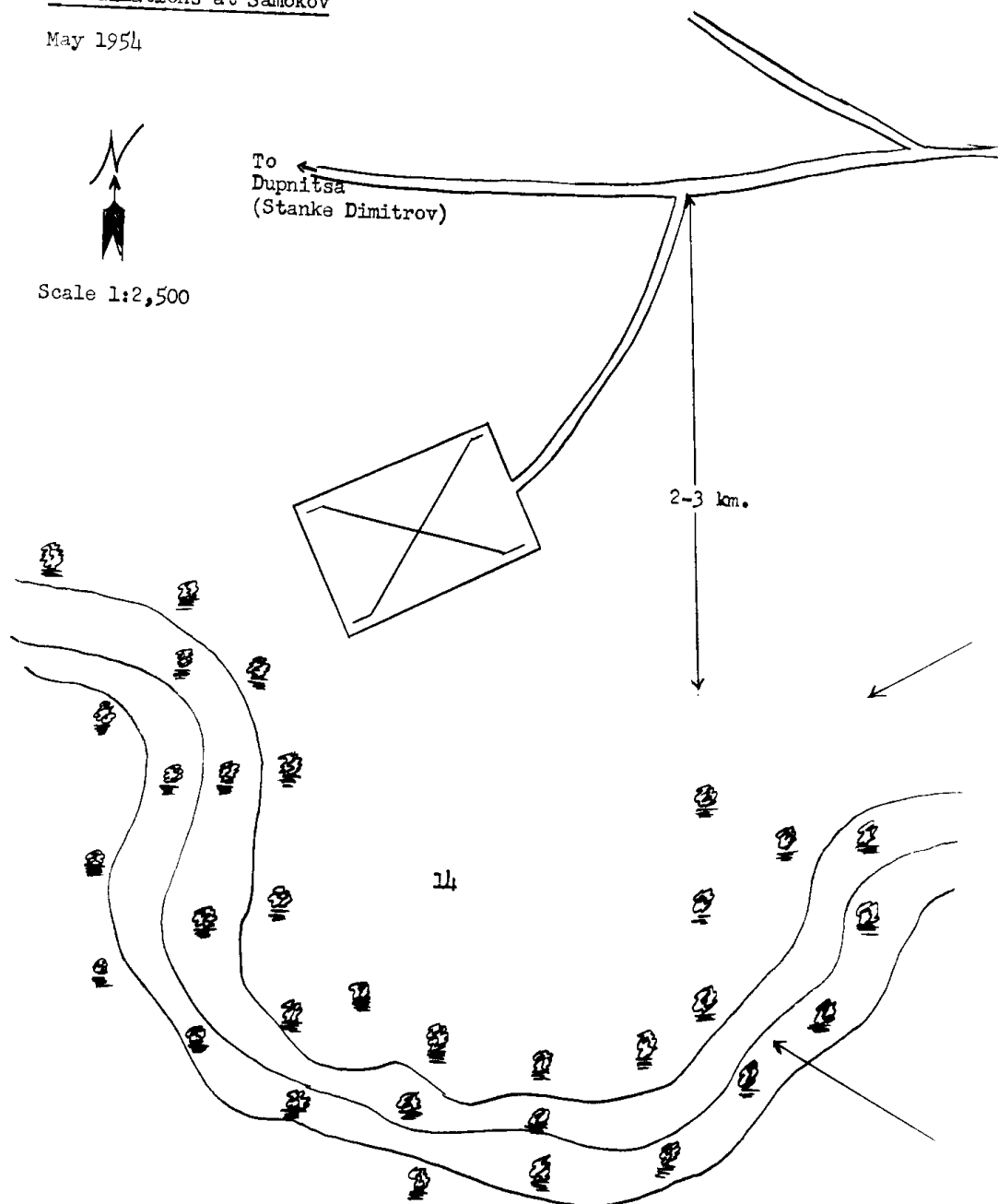
APPENDIX

-11-

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Installations at Samokov

May 1954



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